

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY



(Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

REC'D 29 SEP 2005

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Applicant's or agent's file reference 10306010PCT		FOR FURTHER ACTION		See Form PCT/IPEA/416
International application No. PCT/DK2004/000506		International filing date (day/month/year) 16.07.2004	Priority date (day/month/year) 16.07.2003	
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC A44B11/22				
Applicant MOLLER, Henrik et al.				
<p>1. This report is the International preliminary examination report, established by this International Preliminary Examining Authority under Article 35 and transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.</p> <p>2. This REPORT consists of a total of 5 sheets, including this cover sheet.</p> <p>3. This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, comprising:</p> <p>a. <input type="checkbox"/> sent to the applicant and to the International Bureau a total of sheets, as follows:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis of this report and/or sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions).</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental Box.</p> <p>b. <input type="checkbox"/> (sent to the International Bureau only) a total of (indicate type and number of electronic carrier(s)) , containing a sequence listing and/or tables related thereto, in computer readable form only, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing (see Section 802 of the Administrative Instructions).</p>				
<p>4. This report contains indications relating to the following items:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. I Basis of the opinion</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. II Priority</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VI Certain documents cited</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application</p>				
Date of submission of the demand 16.02.2005		Date of completion of this report 30.09.2005		
Name and mailing address of the international preliminary examining authority:  European Patent Office - P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL-2280 HV Rijswijk - Pays Bas Tel. +31 70 340 - 2040 Tx: 31 651 epo nl Fax: +31 70 340 - 3016		Authorized Officer D'Souza, J Telephone No. +31 70 340-4236 		

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT
ON PATENTABILITY**

International application No.
PCT/DK2004/000506

Box No. I Basis of the report

1. With regard to the **language**, this report is based on the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.
- ☐ This report is based on translations from the original language into the following language , which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of:
- ☐ international search (under Rules 12.3 and 23.1(b))
 - ☐ publication of the international application (under Rule 12.4)
 - ☐ international preliminary examination (under Rules 55.2 and/or 55.3)
2. With regard to the **elements*** of the international application, this report is based on *(replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report):*

Description, Pages

1-17 as originally filed

Claims, Numbers

1-14 as originally filed

Drawings, Sheets

1/10-10/10 as originally filed

- ☐ a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) - see Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing
3. ☐ The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:
- ☐ the description, pages
 - ☐ the claims, Nos.
 - ☐ the drawings, sheets/figs
 - ☐ the sequence listing (*specify*):
 - ☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*):
4. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).
- ☐ the description, pages
 - ☐ the claims, Nos.
 - ☐ the drawings, sheets/figs
 - ☐ the sequence listing (*specify*):
 - ☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*):

* If item 4 applies, some or all of these sheets may be marked "superseded."

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT
ON PATENTABILITY**

International application No.
PCT/DK2004/000506

Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Yes: Claims	1-14
	No: Claims	
Inventive step (IS)	Yes: Claims	1-14
	No: Claims	
Industrial applicability (IA)	Yes: Claims	1-14
	No: Claims	

2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7):

see separate sheet

Re Item V

Reasoned statement with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

Reference is made to the following document:

D1: FR-A-1 376 719 (TRANSFORMATIONS DE L ELASTIQUE) 31 October 1964 (1964-10-31)

1 Claim 1 - Novelty (Article 33(2) PCT)

- 1.1 The document D1 is regarded as being the closest prior art to the subject-matter of claim 1, and discloses (the references in parentheses applying to this document):

A connector for detachably interconnecting a number of strips (1,3) each having at least one perforation (4), which in at least one mutual connection position is flushed with at least one perforation (4') in the other strips (1,3), the connector comprises at least one pin (10) and at least one ring (6) attached to the at least one pin (10), whereby the at least one pin comprises a stem (11, 12) connected to the at least one ring (6) and a head (14) at the end of the stem (11, 12), and the at least one pin (10) is engaging the flushed perforations (4, 4') in the strips (1, 3) in the connected state of these at the same time as the at least one ring (6) is encompassing the strips (1, 3) whereby the strips (1, 3) are detachably interconnected only by means of said at least one pin (10) and at least one ring (6).

- 1.2 The subject matter of claim 1 differs from this known connector in that there is a hook in place of the ring.

- 1.3 The subject matter of claim 1 is therefore novel (article 33(2) PCT).

2 Claim 1 - Inventive step (Article 33(3) PCT)

- 2.1 The problem to be solved by the present invention may be regarded as being as to provide a connector capable of connecting a number of strips, in positions where co-operating perforations are flush with each other and without needing to first pass a length of the strips through an opening in a frame.
- 2.2 The solution to the problem proposed in claim 1 of the present application is considered to involve an inventive step (Article 33(3) PCT), because in the available prior art it is neither known nor suggested to use hook in place of a ring.

3 Dependent Claims

Claims 2 - 14 are dependent on claim 1 and as such also meet the requirements of the PCT with respect to novelty and inventive step.
